

PRESENT: Andreopoulos, Barrow, Bernstein, Bhat, Bliss, Chabayta, Cruz Paul, D’Haem, Diamond, Dinan, Duffy, Ellis, Falk-Romaine, Finnegan, Garfinkel, Godar, Hayden (for Levitan), Healy, Kearney, Kelly, Kim, Korgen, Lee, Martus, Mathew, Mbogoni, McNeal, Natrajan, Ndjatou, Nyaboga, Nyamwange, Parras, Pavese, Perez, Rosar, Sabogal, Schwartz, Sheffield, Slaymaker, Snyder, Steinhart, Swanson, Tardi, Verdicchio, Wagner, Walsh, Weil, Wicke

ABSENT: Waldron

GUESTS: Bolyai, Broome, Burns, Cauthen, Ciliberti, Cohen, Daniel-Robinson, Ferguson, Furst, Fuller-Stanley, Gazillo Diaz, Goldstein, Hahn, Hill, Hong, Jones, Liautaud, Malu, Martone, Miller, Nauta, Noonan, Olaye, Rabbitt, Refsland, Risley, Rosengart, Sandford, Schrader, Seal, Sherman, Teirnan, Trelisky, Maggie Williams, Martin Williams, Wolf

PRELIMINARIES: Chairperson Parras called the Senate to order at 12:33 PM. Martus and Slaymaker moved acceptance of the Agenda. Mathew and Garfinkel moved to amend the Agenda by adding an Elections Council report as a new Item #5. The amendment passed unanimously. Tardi asked for clarification of Item #7, Election for At-Large Executive Committee position. Parras replied that Natrajan’s resignation has created an opening on the Executive Committee. The amended Agenda was then approved unanimously.

The draft minutes of the September 25, 2012 meeting were moved and seconded by Martus and Bliss. Natrajan noted that links are perishable and stated his preference that his statement be included in the Minutes. Duffy responded that the Minutes are not intended to be a transcript of the proceedings, and that including the full text of any statements or, indeed, direct quotations, is contrary to *Roberts Rules* and past practice. Tardi agreed that *Roberts* does not call for word for word recording, but said that if someone requests that something be placed in the Minutes, it should be placed in the Minutes. Kearney and Duffy noted the points. McNeal pointed out that she and Sheffield had successfully moved that the words “faculty advisor” be deleted from the advisement motion. Martus suggested that the proposed changes in the UCC Writing be included in the Minutes, as should the names of all those approved for various councils, etc. Tardi cautioned against editorializing in the Minutes. Martus suggested the Minutes note that Parras was ruled out of order at the end of the meeting. The amended Minutes were accepted with one negative vote and one abstention.

CHAIR’S REPORT: Parras reported on the Executive Committee’s meeting with the President and Provost. Among the topics covered were the following. There are a number of graduate programs in the pipeline that will be coming to the Senate in the Spring. Since the graduation requirement has been reduced to 120 credits, perhaps it is time to lower the number of transfer credits accept. The Academic Standards Council will look into this, as well as the course repeat policy. Another topic to be discussed is the idea of limiting the number of times a student may take developmental courses.

He presented the Executive Committee’s nomination of Esther Martinez, Co-Chair of the Senate Advisement and Registration Council, to be the Senate representative on the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Advising. The nomination was approved unanimously. He reported that the Senate’s resolution urging that students with multiple majors have more than one advisor will not be implemented this semester.

Vice-President Bolyai spoke in favor of the upcoming bond referendum on November’s ballot, pointing out how beneficial it would be for William Paterson. He also invited the community to attend the Town Hall meeting on Thursday, October 11th during Common Hour in the Library Auditorium. Kelly added that the state-wide student organizing campaign is being headed by a 2010 WPU Political Science graduate.

44 Parras reported that the Board of Trustees is headed by new officers: Fred Gruel is the Chair, Maureen Conway
45 is Vice-Chair and Anna Marie Mascolo is the Secretary. There is also a new member, Deborah Zastocki.

46 Enrollment figures were briefly mentioned, and all were invited to the Town Hall meeting on Thursday for an
47 extensive report by K. Cohen. Over the past four years there has been a 20% increase in full-time, tenure-track
48 faculty. Vice-President Ferguson reported that the University recently received a \$600,000 gift, of which
49 \$400,000 has been earmarked for scholarships.

50 Diamond reported on a productive meeting convened by Vice-President Martone held to discuss the issue of
51 minors (individuals under the age of 18) on campus. All those on campus who work with such students have
52 been or will be properly trained. Special problems arise at University events open to the public and at events
53 where facilities are rented.

54 Wagner called attention to the flyers announcing the annual Cheng Library Book Sale currently being held in
55 the Multipurpose Room through Thursday, October 11th. All proceeds go to student-oriented improvements in
56 the Library.

57 Parras concluded the Chair's Report by repeating the Agenda for the Town Hall meeting: Enrollment, the
58 budget, the new marketing plan and the Academic Zone.

59 **VICE-CHAIR'S REPORT:** Falk-Romaine reported that the Executive Committee had approved, on an
60 emergency basis three outside members for the Africana World Studies Department's DAC Committee: T.
61 Owusu, C. Flint and I. Marshall; and C. Flint for the department's Retention Committee. She moved (Martus
62 seconding) the following: K Smith and M. Watad for the Assessment Council; D. Yucel for the Area IIC
63 Review Panel; and H. An for the Technology Intensive Panel. All were approved unanimously. There is still an
64 opening for a Professional Staffer for Review Panel Area C, Social and Behavioral Sciences. Council chairs
65 were reminded to attend the Council Chairs Luncheon on 10/18 during Common Hour in UC171B.

66 **ELECTIONS COUNCIL:** M. Sandford read the Council's statement on the May 3rd election. According to
67 the Faculty Senate Constitution (IIA) it is the Elections Council that runs the elections. The Council has
68 thoroughly discussed the election for the Chair and the elections of the other positions on the Executive
69 Committee. Since only the election for Chair was contested, the other elections are valid and there is no need to
70 discuss them further. There is no way to determine whether it was technical or human error – or abstentions –
71 that could account for the two “missing” votes. If they were abstentions, *Roberts Rules* says they should be
72 ignored. Thus, the Elections Council declares that the May 3rd election was valid. Martus said that someone had
73 asked if his/her vote were counted. Sandford (and Mbgoni) said the two votes may have been abstentions, and
74 he pointed out that there were three successful uses of the clickers on May 3rd, so there's no reason to question
75 their use. Tardi noted that problems were pointed out on May 3rd and said that there were not satisfactorily
76 responded to. She said clear-cut instructions were not given, only “last click counts.” She said there was a lack
77 of checks and balances, and that Parras should not have been involved at all. She believes that it must have been
78 noticed that the vote count did not equal 45. Had people known then, these issues could have been raised
79 immediately. Steinhart quoted from the Minutes of the May 3rd meeting to show that no one had complained
80 during the process. McNeal said that there were complainants, including Barrow, Kelly and Tardi, and she
81 asked who knew the vote total during the meeting. Hong responded that she, Kearney and Maratouk knew
82 during the meeting and that no one else knew until she issued the Teller's Report.

83 Pavese said that *Roberts Rules* are not the rule of law but only guidelines, which can be suspended. *Roberts*
84 provides ways to contest an election, but one needs to know the results to make an informed decision.
85 Andreopoulos identified a number of problems with the election: the set-up, unclear instructions, questions not
86 being answered, the results not being announced and the fact that no remedial action was taken. Barrow referred
87 to the handout she distributed at the last meeting (attached to those Minutes) and maintained that no one is

88 elected until the votes are counted, and since no one can account for the missing votes, there was no election.
89 D’Haem’s motion (seconded by Korgen) to table discussion on the topic was approved by majority vote.

90 **MOTIONS FROM FACULTY AND PROFESSIONAL STAFF MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 11TH:**

91 Falk-Romaine and Dinan moved the motion to use paper ballots in future Executive Committee elections. Ellis
92 stated that any ballots must include abstentions. Finnegan said that the ballots should be prepared in advance
93 and not be mere scraps of paper. Falk-Romaine noted that the Elections Council has prepared color-coded
94 ballots for elections. After brief discussion, the motion passed by a vote of 34 Yes, 5 No with 5 abstentions.

95 Falk-Romaine presented (Tardi seconded) the motion to redo the entire Executive Committee election of May
96 3rd. Steinhart objected, questioning the legality of the motion, and called for an opinion from the
97 Parliamentarian before proceeding. Kearney noted that he cannot “rule” on anything; he can only offer his
98 informed opinion. He stood by his previous statement that the current motion, in effect, would nullify the
99 election and is out order. *Roberts* doesn’t cover a situation like this, and proper redress is provided in the By-
100 Laws: Recall. Kelly said that the election of most of the Executive Committee is not in question, only the
101 election of the Chair, and she supported the Election Committee report and the Parliamentarian’s opinion that
102 Recall is the only proper remedy. Tardi called this a faulty and sloppy election. She agreed that *Roberts* does
103 not account for this sort of situation, and for that reason we must arrive at a reasonable solution on our own. She
104 supported a new election. She further stated that it is ludicrous to say that the Executive Committee members
105 are not interdependent. Natrajan said that the burden is on the Elections Council to explain what happened to
106 the votes. A 22-21 vote count is very different from a 23-22 count, and needs interpretation. He believes that the
107 delay in sharing the tally was crucial and affects our decision making. In response to Verdicchio and Kelly, who
108 had asked for documentation substantiating his claims of delay by the Executive Committee, he presented
109 redacted e-mails from the Executive Committee dating from 5/3-5/10. Nyaboga said that this is not about the
110 Executive Committee, but about the *modus operandi* of the Elections Council. He doesn’t care about the result
111 as much as the process: We must be allowed to vote again. Bernstein called the question (Verdicchio
112 seconded), and debate was ended by an appropriate majority.

113 Tardi called for a secret ballot on the motion to hold a new election for the entire Executive Committee. The
114 balloting was conducted by roll-call using paper ballots. 44 ballots were distributed. The result of the voting
115 was 20 Yes, 24 no with no abstentions. The motion was defeated and the results of the May 3rd election stand.

116 **ADJOURNMENT:** The Faculty Senate went, *de facto*, into adjournment at 1:59 PM.

117 The next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be held on Tuesday October 23rd at 12:30 PM in University
118 Commons Ballroom C.

119 Respectfully submitted: Bill Duffy, Secretary

120 THIS AND OTHER SENATE DOCUMENTS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT: www.wpunj.edu/senate